

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SANTIA 10080 162049Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04

SIL-01 EUR-12 /109 W

-----079255 171009Z /16

R 162011Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7507

INFO US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 1566

US MISSING GENEVA 1071

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 10080

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, PINT, CI

SUBJ: BANISHMENT OF CHILEAN LABOR LEADERS

REF: SANTIAGO 9556 (NOTAL)

1. PINOCHET'S "GET TOUGH" POLICY BANISHING SIX CHILEAN TRADE UNION LEADERS TO THE DESOLATE NORTHERN REGION OF CHILE LOOKS INCREASINGLY LIKE A MAJOR TACTICAL ERROR. THE MANNER IN WHICH PINOCHET ANNOUNCED THE BANISHMENTS AND THE REPORTED CONDITIONS IN WHICH THE SIX ARE NOW LIVING (SEE REFTEL) HAVE COALESCED DISPARATE LABOR ELEMENTS IN THEIR SUPPORT -- AND AGAINST THE GOC LABOR POLICY.

2. COMMUNIST AND DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNION LEADERS HAVE MET AND ISSUED A PUBLIC STATEMENT ON THE BANISHMENT OF THE SIX UNION LEADERS. (NOTE: SEVEN LEADES WERE BANISHED NOVEMBER 23. ONE, ARTURO LATUZ WAS OUT OF CHILE AT THE TIME AND ACCEPTED A JOB IN VENEZUELA RATHER THAN RETURN TO CHILE.) THE STATEMENT CANNOT BE PUBLISHED BECAUSE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SANTIA 10080 162049Z

A STATE OF SIEGE DECREE BANNING ALL MENTION OF THE ISSUE. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO SEVERAL TRADE UNION SOURCES, IT IS BEING CIRCULATED AMONG COPPER, MARITIME, TEXTILE, CONSTRUCTION AND GOVERNMENT WORKERS.

3. THE STATEMENT CONDEMNS THE BANISHMENT AS AN INAPPROPRI-

ATE REACTION TO THE VALID COMPLAINTS BY WORKING PEOPLE AND THEIR LEADERS. IT LISTS A LONG SERIES OF ECONOMIC GRIEVANCES AND NOTES THAT SOME CONSERVATIVES HAVE PUBLISHED SIMILAR COMPLAINTS WITHOUT REPRISALS. THE STATEMENT REFUSES TO ACCEPT THE MILITARY'S DEFINITION OF WHAT CONSTITUTES POLITICAL ACTIVITY AND ARGUES THAT ANY AUTHENTIC TRADE UNION LEADER WOULD DO AND SAY THE SAME THINGS AS THE SIX. IT CONCLUDES THAT THE GOVERNMENT THEREFORE HAS SOLVED NOTHING BY BANISHING THEM.

4. COMMENT: THIS PUBLIC STATEMENT SIGNED BY 20 DEMOCRATIC AND COMMUNIST LABOR LEADERS IS THE FIRST SHOW OF BROAD FRONT (FRENTE AMPLIO) SOLIDARITY WITHIN THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT SINCE THE 1973 COUP. ALTHOUGH NOT SIGNING THE STATEMENT, OTHER LEADERS, GENERALLY CONSIDERED PRO-GOC, HAVE VOICED SUPPORT. PINOCHET HOPED THAT THE BANISHMENTS WOULD SERVE TO INTIMIDATE THOSE SECTORS OF ORGANIZED LABOR THAT HAVE BEEN MOST RESTIVE IN RECENT MONTHS, PRIMARILY THE COPPER WORKERS AND PARTICULARLY THOSE LINKED TO THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC). HE MAY ALSO HAVE SEEN THE BANISHMENTS AS A MEANS OF RETALIATION AGAINST INTERNATIONAL LABOR GROUPS SUPPORTING THE CHILE RESOLUTION IN THE UN: CUEVAS, A COMMUNIST, IS AFFILIATED WITH THE WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS, SPEULVEDA WITH THE AFL-CIO, FREZ WITH THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (CLAT). HOWEVER, THE HARSHNESS AND CAPRICIOUSNESS OF THE GOC ACTION HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 SANTIA 10080 162049Z

SERVED TO STRENGTHEN TRADE UNION OPPOSITION TO THE REGIME.
LANDAU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXILES, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANTIA10080
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770470-1310
Format: TEL
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771246/aaaabmyz.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5aae4c02-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SANTIAGO 9556
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 204164
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BANISHMENT OF CHILEAN LABOR LEADERS
TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, PINT, CI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5aae4c02-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009